

XIV. *Account, accompanied by a Figure, of a minute Ichneumon. By George Shaw, M.D. F.R.S. V.P.L.S.*

Read Nov. 7, 1797.

THIS accurate microscopic drawing was made some years ago, of a species of *Ichneumon*, which may perhaps be the *Ichneumon atomos* of Linnæus, an insect which in the *Systema Naturæ* is said to be found at Upsal, and to be smaller than a common mite. Such was certainly the case with the insect from which the figure was taken, and which, when living, was scarce to be perceived, except when in motion on the surface of the window on which it was discovered. It may be doubted, however, whether it be the *Ichneumon atomos* of the *Systema Naturæ*, since it did not appear to be varied with whitish, as there described, but to be rather of an uniform polished black. The wings are beautifully iridescent, and are edged with extremely long black hairs.

Its character (supposing it not to be the *Ichneumon atomos* of Linnæus) may be thus described :

ICHNEUMON *punctum*.

*Ichneumon niger nitidus, alis iricoloribus, margine pilis longissimis nigris.*

TAB. 18. fig. 1. represents the *Ichneumon punctum* highly magnified.